



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/727,215	12/03/2003	Ahmad H. Tawil	016295.1505	5431
23640 7590 05/02/2008 BAKER BOTTS, LLP 910 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002-4995				
EXAMINER FRITZ, BRADFORD F				
ART UNIT 2141		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 05/02/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

debbie.allen@bakerbotts.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/727,215

Applicant(s)

TAWIL, AHMAD H.

Examiner

BRADFORD F. FRITZ

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9-16,18 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9-16,18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 02/04/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. In the remarks, applicant argued in substance that:

(A) Prior art does not teach wherein the association module includes a mapping table having one or more rows, each row of the mapping table including a storage unit identifier (such as a LUN), and an application identifier, each row of the mapping table forming an association of a storage unit and an application. The Applicant argues that Swank teaches an associated with either a single LUN or a single host, "rather than the convenient row-by-row format of the mapping table of the present invention.

As to point (A), in response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., an associated between a **LUN identifier** and an application, and a mapping table with **more than one row**) and are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

The Examiner respectfully notes that when using "each", each refers to each one (singular) and that if the Applicant intends to refer to more than one, then possibly claim all rows or the plurality of rows.

The Examiner notes that the claim language broadly recites one **or** more rows, the claim only requires a teaching of at least one row displaying the association between a storage unit identifier and an application. Also, the claim does not require that the storage unit identifier refer to a LUN, as claimed, such a storage unit identifier could refer to any storage unit, even a host computer.

Swank teaches a horizontal row in which there is an association between a storage unit identifier (IP address) and an application (Fig. 17).

Nevertheless, Swank teaches a column which includes an association between a LUN identifier and an application (Fig. 17). Swank teaches that this vertical column which displays the LUNs attributes can also be implemented as horizontal panels (*rows*) (column 37, lines 35-45).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-16, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Swank (6,697,924).
5. Regarding claims 1 and 18, Swank disclosed associating with an association module one or more application identifiers and one or more storage unit identifiers to form one or more associations (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each application identifier identifying an application of a host computer (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each storage unit identifier identifying a storage unit of the information handling system (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); and for each of the one or more associations (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), assigning each storage unit identified by each storage unit identifier to each host computer having the application identified by each associated application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), wherein the association module includes a mapping table having one or more rows (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table including a storage unit identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), and an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table forming an association of a storage unit and an application (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18)..
6. Regarding claim 7, Swank disclosed associating an application identifier and a storage unit identifier to form an association (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each application identifier identifying an application of a host computer (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each storage unit identifier identifying a storage unit of the information handling system (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); receiving at one of the one or more storage units (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), a request from a host

(column 8, lines 37-56), the request including a request application identifier (column 8, lines 37-56 and Fig.17-18); and permitting access to the one of the one or more storage units if the identifier of the one of the one or more storage units (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), and the request application identifier have an association in the association module (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), wherein the association module includes a mapping table having one or more rows (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table including a storage unit identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), and an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table forming an association of a storage unit and an application (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18).

7. Regarding claim 14, Swank disclosed booting the host computer (column 14, lines 46-55 and column 59, lines 4-15), the host computer including an application (column 14, lines 46-55 and column 59, lines 4-15), the application having an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); selecting an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); assigning one or more of the one or more storage units to the host (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), the assigned one or more storage units being associated through an association module with the application identifier to form an association (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); and installing the application on the host computer (column 59, 4-15 and 74, lines 1-13), wherein the association module includes a mapping table having one or more rows (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table including a storage unit identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), and an application identifier

(column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table forming an association of a storage unit and an application (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18)..

8. Regarding claim 16, Swank disclosed one or more host computers having one or more applications (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each of the one or more applications having an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); a storage medium interfaced with the one or more host computers (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), the storage medium including one or more storage units (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each storage unit having a storage identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); an association module associating one or more application identifiers and one or more storage unit identifiers to form an association (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), wherein the association module includes a mapping table having one or more rows (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table including a storage unit identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), and an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), each row of the mapping table forming an association of a storage unit and an application (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); a control module in communication with the storage medium and the one or more host connections (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), the control module performs operations comprising: associating one or more application identifiers and one or more storage unit identifiers to form an association (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); and for each association (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), assigning each storage unit identified by each storage unit identifier to each host having

the application identified by each associated application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18).

9. Regarding claims 3 and 9, Swank disclosed each application identifier includes a node name and a port name of a host bus adapter of the host computer having the application identified by the application identifier (column 45, lines 1-20 and column 58, lines 38-67).

10. Regarding claims 4, 5, 10, and 11, Swank disclosed the node/port name includes a World-Wide Name (WWN) (column 31, lines 40-65 and column 59, lines 5-15).

11. Regarding claims 6 and 12, Swank disclosed wherein the storage unit identifier includes a logical unit number (LUN) (column 59, lines 24-37 and Fig. 17-18).

12. Regarding claim 13, Swank disclosed selecting an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); and assigning one or more of the one or more storage units to the host computer having the application identified by the application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18).

13. Regarding claim 15, Swank disclosed booting the host computer (column 59, lines 4-25); selecting an application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18), the application identifier being associated with a desired application (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); configuring the host computer to include the application identifier (column 3, lines 40-67 and Fig.17-18); and booting the host computer (column 59, lines 4-25).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **BRADFORD F. FRITZ** whose telephone number is (571)272-3860. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2142

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. F. F./
Examiner, Art Unit 2141

/Andrew Caldwell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2142